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Message Text

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46
ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 /031 W
---------- 092702
O 201717Z MAY 74
FM USINT DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 588
INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 0807

EXDIS

SECTO 555

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
SUBJECT: MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY TO ACTING SECRETARY

1. FOLLOWING IS APPROVED TEXT OF MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY FOR ACTING SECRETARY TOREAD AT OPENING OF CENTO MEETING TUESDAY.

BEGIN MESSAGE:

AS MY CENTO COLLEAGUES KNOW, THE DEMANDS OF THE PRESENT MIDDLE EAST NEGOTIATIONS PREVENT ME FROM ATTENDING THIS IMPORTANT CONFERENCE OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS. I PARTICULARLY REGRET MY INABILITY TO BE WITH YOU SINCE THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN MY FIRST OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE PERSONALLY IN A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL. BUT YOU CAN BE SURE THAT MY ABSENCE IN NO WAY DIMINISHES MY COUNTRY'S STRONG AND LONG-STANDING SUPPORT FOR CENTO. QUITE THE CONTRARY, FOR THE SAME COMMITMENT TO PEACE WHICH CENTO EMBODIES ALSO DICTATES THAT I CONTINUE MY CURRENT EFFORTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

THE DISCUSSIONS WHICH YOU ARE NOW UNDERTAKING PROVIDE AN IDEAL OPPORTUNITY:

-- TO RENEW OUR COMMON DEDICATION TOTHE IDEALS FOR WHICH CENTO STANDS;
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-- TO STRENGTHEN THE BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP AMONG OUR NATIONS;

-- AND TO REPLENISH OUR COMMITMENT TO PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE CENTO REGION AND THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

AS WELL, LET THIS BE THE OCCASION FOR A THOROUGH EXAMINATION OF THE CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITES -- ECONOMIC, TECHNOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL - THAT CONFRONT US IN THIS REPIDLY CHANGING GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT. WE MUST, FOR EXAMPLE,GIVE CAREFUL ATTENTION TO THE PROBLEM OF TRANSLATING THE GROWING RESOURCE WEALTH OF THE CENTO AREA INTO WIDE-RANGING AND STEADY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

IN MY ABSENCE, ACTING SECRETARY RUSH HAS COMPLETE AUTHORITY TO REPRESENT PRESIDENT NIXON'S FIRM COMMITMENT TO MAINTAINING THE STRENGTH AND VITALITY OF CENTO. I WILL FOLLOW REPORTS OF YOUR DISCUSSIONS WITH GREAT INTEREST,AND UPON MY RETURN I INTEND TO REVIEW IN DETAIL THE PROCEEDINGS AND RESULTS OF THE CONFERENCE.

I LOOK FORWARD TO THE NEXT OPPORTUNITY TOMEET WITH MY FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES FROM IRAN, PAKISTAN, TURKEY AND THE UNITED KINGDOM.FOR NOW, YOU HAVE MY VERY BEST WISHES FOR A FRUITFUL CONFERENCE AND A MEMORABLE VISIT. KISSINGER

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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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